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H R L

55 BUY YOUR TICKETS VIA THE  
CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RY.

TO

THE NEXT BIG CITY,  
**SISSETON**

Roberts County, State of South Dakota.

THE LARGEST LOCAL MARKET IN THE STATE.

THE NATURAL AND ONLY GATEWAY

TO A RICH AGRICULTURAL COUNTY.

A NATURAL ENTRANCE TO TWO GREAT STATES.

MEDICINAL SPRINGS RICH IN MINERALS.

ARTESIAN WATER AT 500 FEET.

The opportunity "THAT KNOCKS AT YOUR DOOR" will not  
be open long.

PROGRESS, ENTERPRISE, ENERGY and PROSPERITY walk hand in  
hand THROUGH THE STREETS OF SISSETON.

PROPERTY that can now be purchased for from \$50 to \$1000 per lot  
will TREBLE and even QUADRUPLE in value within one to  
three years.

1893.

## SOUTH DAKOTA SONG.

When the wheat is in the granary  
And the prices reach the sky,  
And the roosters are a-crowing,  
And the chickens flying high;  
When the city fellers squabble  
For the farmers' views and votes,  
And the barn is full of timothy,  
And the bins are full of oats,  
It's then that a teller is a-feeling at his best,  
With the risin' sun to greet him  
From a night of glorious rest;  
And the babies caper round him,  
And the colts are kicking high,  
When the wheat is in the granary  
And the prices reach the sky.

Ther's something kind o' hearty like  
About the sky and field,  
With the stubble there a-laughing  
At a 30-bushel yield,  
With the happy birds a-singing  
And the cattle in a doze,  
And the hired man a-coming round  
To show his new store clothes.  
A teller feels content  
And at peace with all the world,  
When the golden flag of plenty  
Like a blessing is unfurled.  
Oh, I tell you Nancy's happy,  
And the girl's are flying high,  
With the gran-a-ry a-bustin'  
And the prices in the sky.

Session, Feb. 25th, 1893.

# SISSETON,

THE GEOGRAPHICAL CENTER AND FUTURE COUNTY SEAT  
OF ROBERTS COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA.

THE BRIGHTEST TOWN AND THE RICHEST COUNTY IN NORTHEASTERN  
SOUTH DAKOTA.

The multitude of inquiries relative to the advantages of Sisseton, the coming metropolis of one of the largest, richest and most beautiful counties of the State of South Dakota, have led us to the meagre attempt to answer such questions at wholesale, and describe, in part, the facts concerning this county, and its business center.

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## **Territory 50 Miles Square Tributary to Sisseton Local Market.**

Sisseton is the trading point for more than 50 miles around, and is destined to become one of the leading cities. More business will be done in this city than in any city of equal size on the whole system of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry. It is also located in line with that wonderful belt of cities which cross the continent from north to south, including Galveston, Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, Sioux Falls, Watertown, Fargo and Grand Forks, and Winnipeg. It is about half way between Watertown and Fargo, and, so far as distance is concerned, bears about the same relation to these two cities that Watertown, Sioux Falls, Sioux City, Omaha and Kansas City bear to each other.

A careful study of the map of the United States, following the trunk railroad lines from East to West, considering well the location and developments of cities of the different classes and the local and other causes that have built them up, can not fail to impress any thinking person by the time they reach Sisseton, and consider its location and the field it occupies, that it is not to be an intermediate town, but is destined to be a city of the first class. It will pay you to keep an eye on her.

Her development from her present beginning up to a city of from 5,000 to 10,000, must depend almost wholly upon local causes; her growth from that point upward, depending upon the development of her manufacturing and wholesaling interests, and the recognition of the advantages of her location as a railroad point.



**No. 1 Hard Wheat, 20 to 40 Bushels Per Acre.**

The soil in nearly all of the region, commercially tributary to Sisseton, is identical with the soil in the famous Valley of the Red River of the North, of which, indeed, this is the southern portion, which has been cultivated for years, without exhaustion, and is considered one of the most fertile spots on the globe.

The soil is a rich black loam from 15 to 30 inches in depth, underlaid with a yellowish porous clay. This sub-soil absorbs an immense amount of moisture and enables the soil to withstand either extremely dry or extremely wet weather. From April 1st to June 1st, 1892, there fell 18 inches of water, and yet but slightly retarded farming, and a greater acreage was seeded than in any previous year.

Springs and streams are numerous in this County. Dozens of pretty little streams of clearest spring water come rippling down from the Coteaux to the westward, to the large lakes, Traverse and Big Stone, upon her eastern border. Lakes abound here and there with timber-covered banks, and well filled with black bass, pickerel, pike and other northwestern game fish.



A DAKOTA FARM, NEAR SISSETON.

The crop for South Dakota in the year 1892 is estimated as follows: Wheat, 60,000,000 bushels; corn, 30,000,000 bushels; oats, 60,000,000 bushels; total, 150,000,000 bushels; value, \$78,000,000. Adding to these, flax, barley, rye, potatoes, live stock, butter and eggs, etc., and the total value for South Dakota's agricultural products for the year was between \$100,000,000 and \$110,000,000. This all in a country which has a population of a little less than 300,000, and ten years ago was mostly an unbroken prairie.

Roberts County wheat crop for the past eleven years may be seen from an examination of the following table:

YEAR.	Yield per Acre.	Price per Bushel.	Income per Acre.
1882.....	30	78	\$23.40
1883.....	20	65	13.00
1884.....	25	50	12.50
1885.....	22	42	9.24
1886.....	22	45	9.90
1887.....	20	60	12.00
1888.....	23	95	21.85
1889.....	20	75	15.00
1890.....	22	70	15.40
1891.....	25	70	17.50
1892.....	24	60	14.40

These figures refer to the small portion of the county which has been settled and tilled for years past; but it must be borne in mind that at least eight-tenths of this beautiful county was a portion of the Sisseton Reservation until the 15th day of April, 1892, when the same was thrown open for settlement to Homesteaders. The soil is uniform throughout the county, and when the sod of the newly opened portion of the county is turned up to the kisses of the sunlight, the crop reports of this county will be still more astounding. The settlement of the county has been rapid, and the crops of flax sown last year upon new breaking foretell to a certainty rich farming sections and a large market.

The fact that applications for seventeen elevators at Sisseton have been made to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry. Company gives one a good basis upon which to estimate grain buyers' judgment of the crop prospect of Roberts County, and affords you a legitimate foundation for your belief that Sisseton will be the largest permanent grain market, and consequently one of the strongest cities of the State of South Dakota.

In a large part of South Dakota wheat is the favorite crop, as it is easily cultivated, the grain is soon threshed, and it can be rapidly sold and converted into cash. The wheat of the Dakotas is the best grown, and has gained a world-wide reputation. It has the smallest percentage of water and the largest of albumenoids. The average percentage of water of the wheat of the United States and Canada is 10.16, while that of the Dakotas is 8.84. In albumenoids the Dakota wheat averages 14.95, while that of the United States and Canada is 12.15. Although all Dakota wheat of the same grade is good, the Minneapolis millers regard that wheat which is raised in the latitude near Sisseton the best milling wheat in the market, as it can be ground to the best advantage without any mixture with other wheat, a fact which cannot be stated with

reference to grain raised at any considerable distance to the northward or southward of this point.

All parts of Roberts County will produce flax of excellent quality; it yields from about 15 to 25 bushels per acre, and always commands a good price; it is often grown upon the newly turned sod, and the farmer has a crop instead of letting his land summer fallow. Oats grow to perfection in the vicinity of Sisseton; the yield averages 50 to 60 bushels, while 80 and 100 bushels to the acre are not unusual. The quality is always first-class, and the oat crop of this section is being sought by oat-meal mills, as the very best for human food.

Barley is also raised in this county, with an excellent color, quality and yield; it averages from 35 to 50 bushels, and always brings a good price. Barley, cracked or cooked, has been found to be a fine food for hogs, and the time is not far distant when the Northwest even will turn out a large crop of barley-fed hogs.

The entire surface of Roberts County is covered with native grasses. Buffalo, blue joint, bunch and other wild grasses abound, and furnish excellent pasturage for domestic animals, just as they did to the countless buffalo and deer. Farmers in this section can put up wild hay of fine quality at a cost of from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per ton. In Sisseton, this hay sells from \$4.00 to \$7.00 per ton. Timothy, clover, blue grass, millett and other tame grasses do well, but most of the farmers prefer to depend upon the wild grasses for pasturage and hay.

The South Dakota potato is a large, robust fellow who will not take a back seat for anybody. The tubers are dry and mealy and excellent keepers. They yield from 150 to 500 bushels to the acre, and bring a good price. Everything else in the line of vegetables, which grow in North Temperate Zone, grow to perfection here. Nothing can be further from the truth than the impression which eastern people have, that fruits will not grow in South Dakota. No one will claim that this is par excellence a fruit country; but small fruits, such as strawberries, raspberries, cherries, hardy grapes, crabapples and plums, grow easily and yield bountifully. The wild flowers of South Dakota differ somewhat from those of the east, but the prairies are covered with different flowers during the entire season. Every domestic flower which the eastern lady cultivates will grow here, so that the new comer need not be without a single one of the old friends of her flower garden.

It is the boast of Roberts County that our pioneer farmers are not obliged to spend half their time in cutting down trees and grubbing out stumps, still it is not to be denied that a piece of timber, here and there, is most desirable. The Coteaux are fringed with a beautiful natural timber, containing cottonwood, oak, hard maple, ash and other deciduous trees, and the supply of timber is, at present, sufficient for the demands of the country.





THE SUCCESSOR OF THE LOG SHACK.

### Sisseton's Sunny Seasons.

Nothing is more misunderstood or misrepresented than the climate of South Dakota. This state is not a land of frosts and blizzards. On the contrary, it lacks little of being a land of almost perpetual sunshine. During eleven years' residence in South Dakota, but one blizzard has been seen which corresponds with the popular eastern conception of a blizzard. During almost any winter the East has storms which in all respects are worse than the much defamed blizzard of the Dakotas.

The atmosphere of this state is dry and invigorating, and one does not feel the cold as he does in a locality where the air is moist. The following table, wherein the average state of the weather in Dakota Territory, based on observations covering a period of fifteen years, is compared with the monthly and annual mean temperature of one of the New England and one of the Western States, shows that in no month of the year does the weather average so cold in Dakota as in either Minnesota or New Hampshire:

	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	
Dakota.....	6.8°	12.9°	24.2°	52.5°	56.7°	65.8°	
Minnesota.....	3.2°	10.2°	20.5°	48.5°	52.8°	63.0°	
New Hampshire.....	6.1°	8.8°	9.6°	20.1°	34.2°	44.3°	
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Dakota.....	71.8°	69.6°	58.8°	45.7°	27.7°	15.6°	41.5°
Minnesota.....	62.2°	65.8°	56.0°	44.1°	25.5°	11.6°	38.1°
New Hamp.....	46.7°	47.2°	42.6°	30.2°	17.2°	11.3°	26.5°

Spring is a particularly delightful season in this county, all of the seeding being done before the 20th of April. The summer months are pleasant and



sunny, and while the mercury is not ashamed to spend a good deal of time "cavorting" around among the nineties, the heat is not of a close, suffocating nature. Breezes are always blowing, and cases of sunstroke or heat prostration are very unusual. The nights are cool, and one always awakes with a feeling of refreshment. The fall months bring the pleasantest weather of the whole year. The sun, dropping southward, sends his rays less directly, and the heat of summer subsides. Almost every day is bright and fair, and the air is laden with healthfulness. Cold weather sometimes occurs before the end of November, but for the most part winter weather is not looked for until the middle or latter part of December.

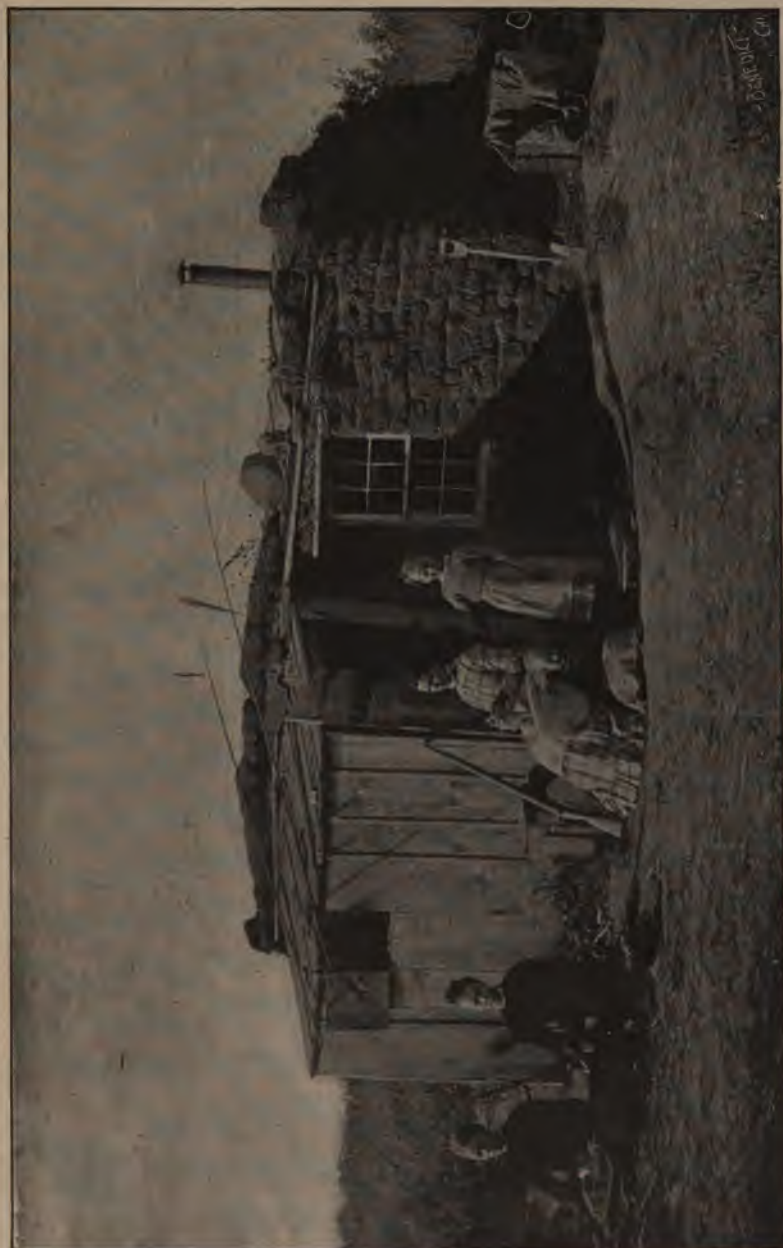
In New England much of the winter is rainy, cloudy and generally disagreeable, while frequently the heavy fall of snow makes traveling difficult. In South Dakota, at least every five days out of six are bright and cheery. There is seldom a heavy fall of snow, it rarely rains in winter, traveling is nearly always good, and the winter is generally unattended by the discomforts and disagreeable features which characterize that season in the East.

Herewith appended is a table compiled from the records of the United States Signal Service office for one year for different Eastern and Western States.

### Comparative Table.

Table showing the number of clear, fair and cloudy days in Dakota during the year 1886, in comparison with some of the states:

	Cloudy days. No.	Clear days. No.	Fair days. No.
Dakota (Territory) .....	62.9	126.7	175.4
Nebraska .....	67.0	124.0	174.0
Rhode Island .....	81.8	122.2	161.0
Kansas .....	83.7	135.0	146.3
Minnesota .....	97.2	106.0	161.8
Illinois .....	102.4	115.4	147.2
Connecticut .....	103.3	113.3	148.4
Wisconsin .....	109.1	96.8	159.1
Iowa .....	118.0	93.3	153.7
Pennsylvania .....	118.8	106.2	140.0
Massachusetts .....	128.0	103.0	134.0
Indiana .....	128.1	94.5	142.4
Maine .....	129.5	92.3	143.2
Ohio .....	130.8	90.4	143.8
Michigan .....	135.3	83.1	146.6
New York .....	153.5	76.1	135.4
New Hampshire .....	163.6	79.2	122.2



DAKOTA SOD SHANTY, IN ROBERTS COUNTY.

For health and long life, South Dakota beats the world. From the United States census report of 1880, the following death rate in proportion to the population is given for different localities:

Minnesota.....	1 in 86
Iowa .....	1 in 84
Wisconsin.....	1 in 82
Pennsylvania .....	1 in 67
Texas .....	1 in 64
All of the United States.....	1 in 66
Norway.....	1 in 56
Denmark.....	1 in 46
Sweden .....	1 in 50
Great Britain.....	1 in 46
Switzerland.....	1 in 41
Holland.....	1 in 37
Dakota.....	1 in 166

### **Sisseton's Inexhaustible Water Power.**

An eight-inch artesian well in this state will run a 100-barrel flouring mill. No description of Sisseton can be complete without a few words, at least, relative to the great sea of water which lies under us clamoring for an outlet to the surface. This entire portion of the state is so underlaid, and one of the finest artesian wells in the Northwest is within fourteen miles of Sisseton. Geologists have determined that the supply of water comes from the upper Missouri basin, near the foot hills of the Rocky Mountains. It is carried down through the various strata called the Dakota sandstone, until at this point it is pent up with a head "of several thousand feet behind it." The Dakota sandstone is very porous, and at this point is eighty or more feet thick. When this is pierced the water is forced to the surface with great power and velocity. Incredible as it may seem, some of these wells flow nearly 4,000,000 gallons every 24 hours. Nearly 300 wells have been put down in different parts of the state, varying in depth from 400 to 1500 feet. Some of these wells supply water to towns for water works and fire protection at a heavy pressure, while others are used to drive flouring mills and other manufacturing institutions, this power being a favorite one with all users of machinery because of the steadiness and the regularity of its pressure.

Arrangements are being perfected looking toward the sinking of several wells to furnish power for manufacturing institutions which are looking towards Sisseton with a view of locating. Many farmers have wells one or two inches in diameter to supply water for stock and other domestic purposes. Four-inch artesian wells cost from \$450 to \$3,000, according to the depth. Farmers themselves have put down wells in some localities at a cash expendi-



A TYPICAL DAKOTA BARNYARD.

ture of less than \$150. It will readily be seen what a blessing this is. When once sunk these wells are as steady in their flow and as certain in results as if operated by clock work. Other advantages are numerous. In Sisseton they would furnish an inexpensive supply for water works. The pressure would force the water over the highest buildings, thus affording ample protection against fire. There is no better water in the world, as it is free from all harmful impurities.

Taken all in all, the marvelous power and great utility of these wells cannot be appreciated unless one sees the wells themselves. The government has instituted a special Board of Inquiry in the Department of Agriculture, whose duties it is to thoroughly investigate these wells, and to direct the attention of the public to the vast advantages to be derived therefrom.

### Medicinal and Mineral Springs.

The mineral springs near Sisseton are attracting wide and favorable attention in the medical world, although their present development is somewhat limited by reason of the short time which has intervened since their re-discovery by white men. For countless years the Indians who occupied these valleys well knew the value of the springs, and particularly did they revere the timber-fringed hills to the westward of Sisseton as a health and pleasure resort. When worn out from the chase of the buffalo, they would seek the country which now surrounds the City of Sisseton, and here would bathe in the health-giving waters of the Sisseton Springs. It was to this point the sick and infirm of the



Sisseton Nation were wont to come for the purpose of regaining both health and strength. The marvelous properties of these medicinal waters came to the ears of the white man shortly after his entrance to this region, but so carefully did the Indians guard them that it was many years before the truth could be ascertained. The unerring instinct of the red man had led him to these springs, and superstition magnified their healing properties into miraculous manifestations of the Great Spirit.

Tradition has it that upwards of 200 years ago an epidemic of great violence attacked the Indian tribes of North America, and it soon became manifest that the whole race would become extinct if the fell destroyer was not arrested. The healing qualities of mineral waters had long been known to the Indians, and they resorted to the waters, east and south, in their distress, but with little success. At this period of their great affliction, when their ranks had been decimated by fell disease, when hope was almost extinguished, when death had again and again entered the wigwam of chief and warrior, when lamentation for their dead had become universal, a messenger arrived from the Great West with news of a wonderful water which he said had been touched by the finger of the Great Spirit, and that this water would cure all manner of diseases. With the same eagerness that the people of all ages have seized upon a last resort for ills, the Indians seized upon this hope, and they repaired by thousands to these most wonderful waters, and were saved.

The extent to which these springs were used by the Indian nations is not wholly a matter of tradition. The slopes surrounding the springs contain thousands of tepee circles, each one being the only material evidence now at hand that an Indian's tepee (wigwam) was once placed there for the benefit of some poor Indian invalid, for whom the reputation of the wonderful healing qualities of these springs had a lasting fascination and charm.



A PROSPECTIVE FORTUNE IN SHEEP, IN ROBERTS COUNTY.

### Who Should Go to Sisseton.

Farmers who are renting or owning small places in the East will do well to take up the cheap lands, as these lands can be had at a nominal outlay; in fact some homesteads may yet be obtained. These lands, opened less than a year ago to settlement, are surrounded by the richest and best developed sections of North and South Dakota and western Minnesota, being already worth from twenty to thirty dollars per acre, a figure which will be reached by these lands in an incredibly short time. These lands are well adapted to all kinds of farming and grain raising. Horses, cattle and sheep can be raised to the best advantage, owing to the abundance and character of the native grasses for pasturage and hay.

The town of Sisseton affords the best of openings for all classes of business, because of the extent of the country tributary thereto and its rapidly increasing population, the town being the terminus of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry., and those who go now will be there at the start and can increase their business with the growth of the country.

Bankers and investors will find this a most promising field for years to come.

Manufacturers in all lines will find this an exceptional field. There is an immediate demand for flouring mills, tow mills and other like industries. The best of brick and potters' clay exists in inexhaustible quantities, and brick-making would be profitable from the start.

Tourists and invalids will find this a good place, as the hunting and fishing are of the best and the medicinal properties of the waters are the most efficacious.

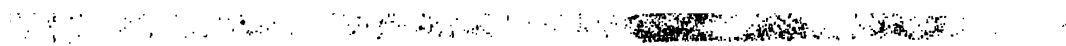
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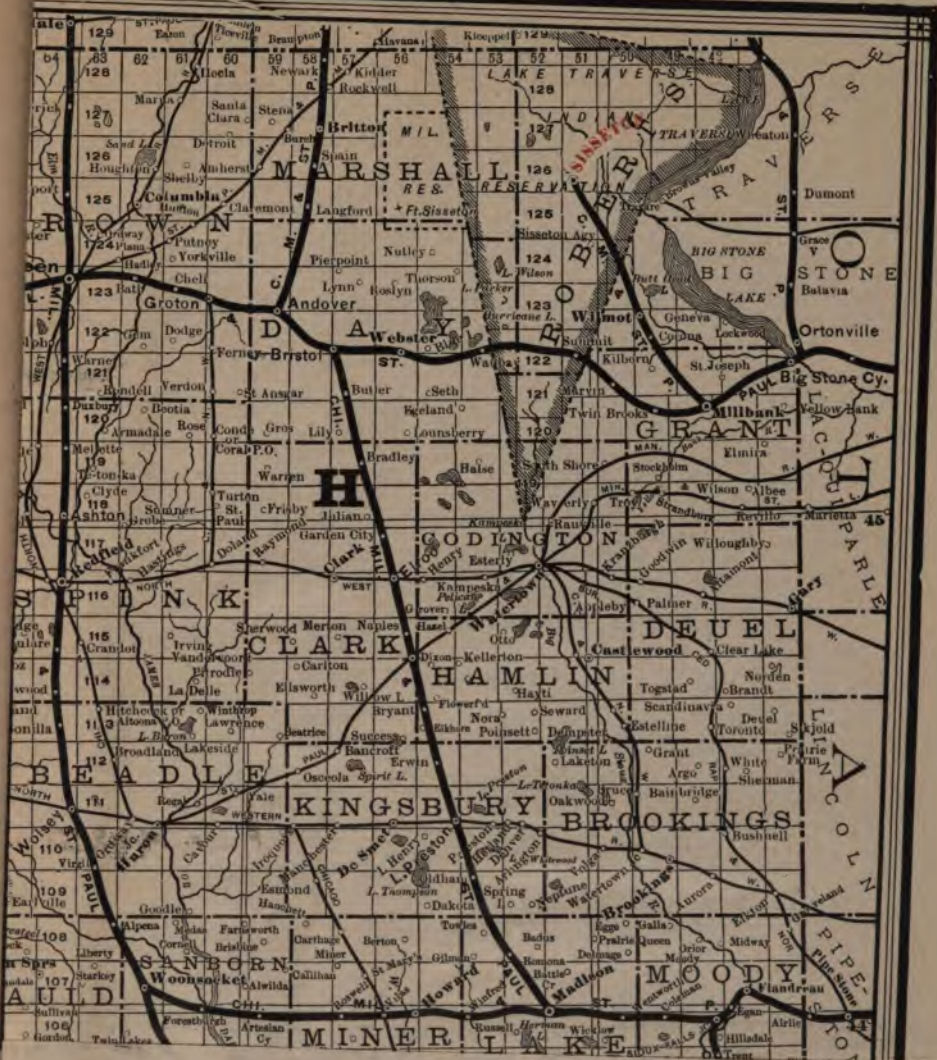
### How to Get to Sisseton.

From Chicago and intermediate points westward, buy your tickets to Sisseton via the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry., as trains on all of their lines connect to reach Sisseton.

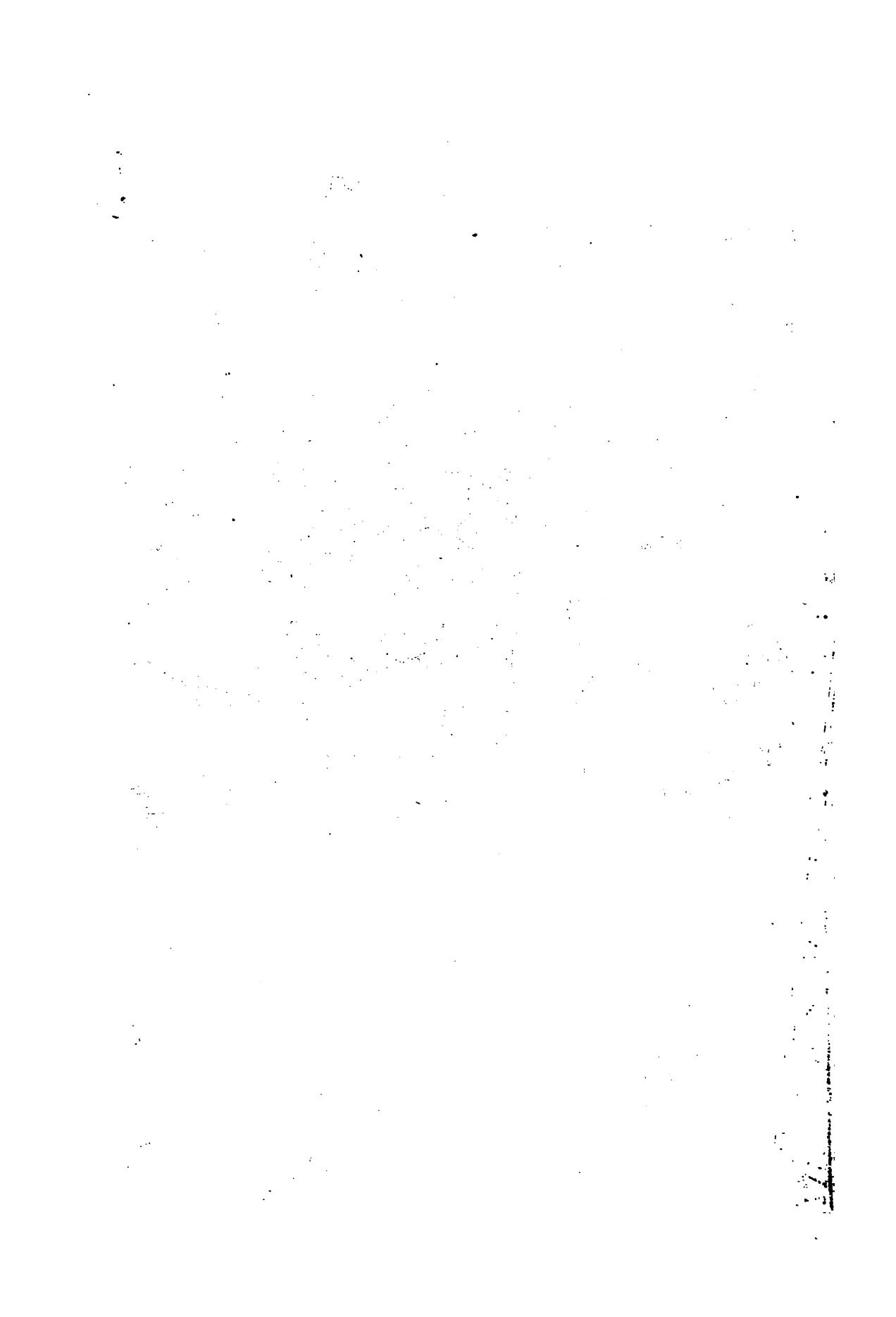
Further information may be obtained by writing to either of the following parties:

W. E. POWELL, Gen. Immigration Agent C. M. & St. P. Ry., Chicago, Ill.	
HERBERT L. GREENE,	Sisseton, S. D.
D. C. THOMAS,	"
F. W. PETTIGREW,	"
W. B. WAMPLER,	"
T. D. ELLEFSON,	"
W. H. NICHOLS,	"
E. A. SOMMERVILLE,	"





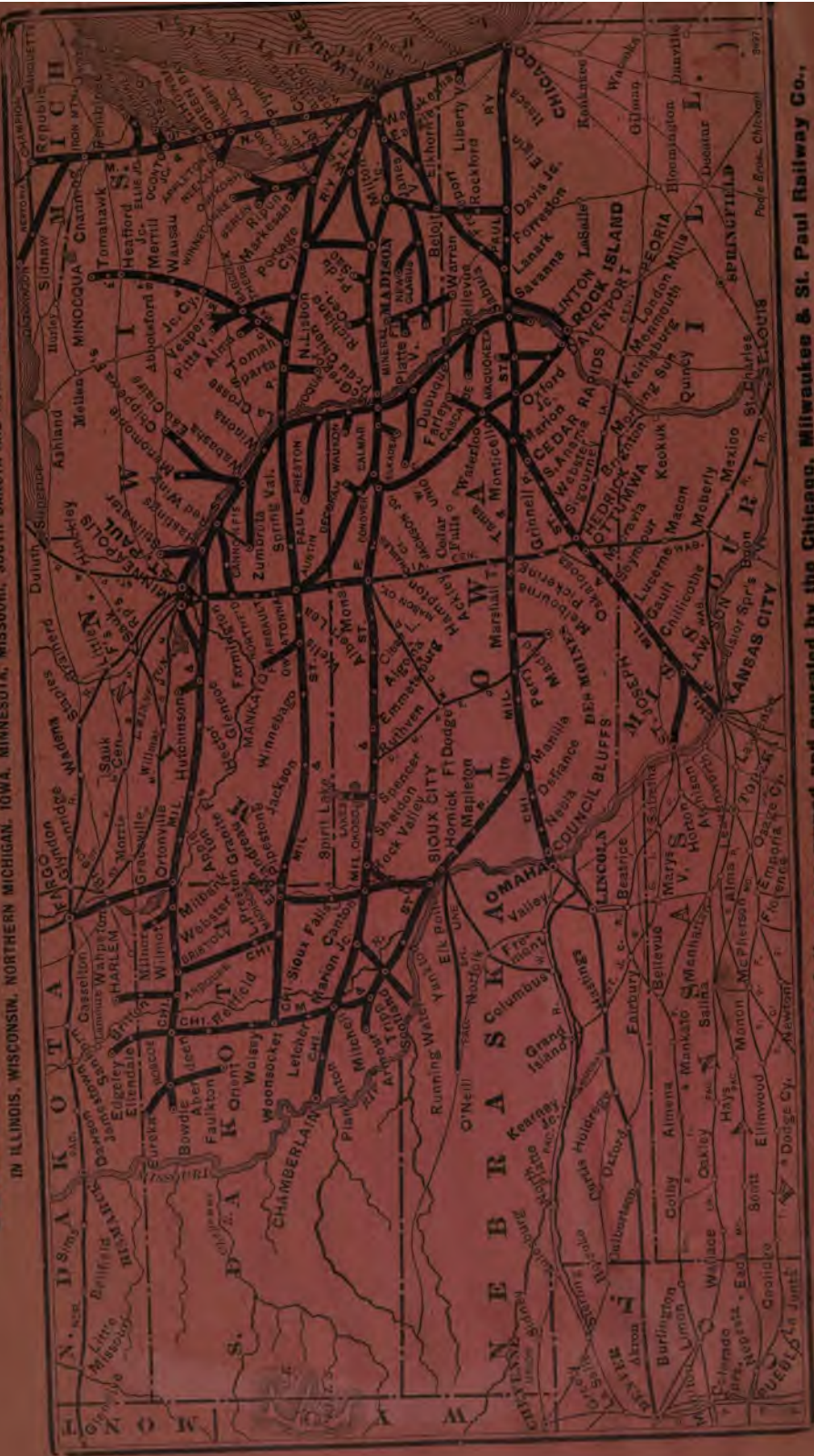






# CONDENSED MAP OF THE CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RAILWAY

IN ILLINOIS, WISCONSIN, NORTHERN MICHIGAN, IOWA, MINNESOTA, MISSOURI, SOUTH DAKOTA AND NORTH DAKOTA.



All the Roads shown in heavy black lines are owned and operated by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Co., a total of 6,150 miles.